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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang  
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646  
FOR: Growth Factor Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This filing in response to the August 27, 2002, Office Action ("Office Action") is due on or before February 27, 2003, with the enclosed three-month extension of time. This application is now entitled to small entity status.

Please make the following amendments and consider the accompanying remarks.